THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir. A number of tourism-related publications are being brought out in India.

(b) The Government carries out promotion of tourism abroad through its offices located in a number of countries. These magazines are given advertisements from time to time.

Foreign Airlines under cutting fares

5954. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DGCA is authorised to take action against foreign airlines under cutting their fares on various sectors originating/terminating from/to India;

(b) whether Government has received any complaint against KLM for undercutting fares and if so, what are the details in this regard and action taken against KLM so far; and

(c) whether Government have recently granted additional landing rights in India to KLM inspite of this airlines refusal to fulfil its promise to spend an agreed sum of money on promotion of tourism to India, and if so whether Government will consider cancelling additional landings rights given to KLM till it makes good its promise and if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Additional traffic rights to KLM were last granted in the bilateral talks held in January, 1992. There was no proposal at that time for any contribution by the Dutch side for development of tourism to India. The commercial arrangements agreed upon during the January, 1992 talks are being honoured by KLM.

Private airlines to link new tourist spots

5955. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Giving Wings to Tourism" in April, 1995 issue of Top Tourism Bulletin about effrts being made by Archana Airways and other private airlines to link new tourist spots by air; and

(b) if so, what are the steps already taken by Government or being taken to augment the efforts of these airlines (ATOS) or opening new areas to tourism?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proopsals submitted by private operators for fleet expansion and new services are considered by Government on a case to case basis and decided on merits keeping in view the demands of traffic and the infrastructure available at the airports. Services to new destinations are given priority of consideration.

Trivandrum International Airport

5956. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the National Airports has been raised to the standard of International with ragerd to facilities provided;

(b) if so, which are these airports already raised to such level;

(c) which are those airports which will be raised to that level in the coming days;

(d) how much has been spent in the past to provide international standard at these airports details thereof in each case and also, how much will be spent in the coming days on each one of them to uplift their standard;